

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 /076 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2397

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0511

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE: MILITARY
TECHNICAL STUDY

1. THE UK AND SOME OF THE SMALLER ALLIES APPEAR LIKELY
TO REQUEST A STUDY AT NATO ON THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS
OF MODIFYING THE TANK ARMY OBJECTIVE UNDER THE NEW
WESTERN INITIATIVE. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE MOST
EXPEDITIOUS WAY TO PROCEED WITH THE INITIATIVE WOULD BE
FOR THE SPC TO AGREE AT THE MEETING THE INITIATIVE IS
FIRST INTRODUCED ON A MANDATE TO THE MBFR WORKING GROUP
TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A STUDY, SO THAT THE STUDY COULD
COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY. THE MANDATE SHOULD BE PRECISE.

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IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT IT PROVIDE A FIRM
THREE-WEEK DEADLINE FOR THE STUDY TO BE
COMPLETED AND TRANSMITTED TO SPC.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON AUTHORIZE USNATO
TO SEEK AGREEMENT WITH UK AND FRG SPC REPS ON A
MANDATE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES IN ADVANCE OF

THE FIRST SPC MEETING, SO THAT FRG CAN PROPOSE A MANDATE AT THAT MEETING, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON IT AT THE SAME MEETING.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT MANDATE: THE MBFR WORKING GROUP IS REQUESTED TO ASSESS FROM THE MILITARY STANDPOINT:

A) THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TANK ARMY OBJECTIVE AS SET FORTH IN C-M(73)83, C-M(75)74, AND C-M(75)75 AND THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THIS OBJECTIVE TO FIVE DIVISIONS, 68,000 MEN AND 1,700 TANKS, AND;

B) THE ACCEPTABILITY IN MILITARY TERMS OF AN OUTCOME INCORPORATING THE WESTERN OBJECTIVES BUT WITH THIS MODIFICATION.

THE MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD SUBMIT ITS REPORT TO SPC BY.....(NOTE: DATE THREE WEEKS FROM FIRST SPC MEETING DATE). END TEXT OF DRAFT MANDATE.

4. THERE SHOULD BE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING IN THE SPC THAT SPC DISCUSSION OF THE LANGUAGE OF DRAFT GUIDANCE TO THE AHG ON THE INITIATIVE WOULD OF COURSE CONTINUE WHILE THE WG STUDY IS UNDERWAY,
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ALTHOUGH FINAL SPC AGREEMENT COULD OBVIOUSLY NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL AFTER COMPLETION OF THE WG STUDY.
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